

The Lacombe Guardian

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Sir John French is Recalled

London, Dec. 15.—General Sir Douglas Haig, who in November 1914 was raised from the rank of lieutenant-general to general for distinguished service in the field, is to be commander-in-chief of the British forces in France and Belgium.

Announcement was made tonight that General Haig had been appointed to succeed Field Marshal Sir John French, who has headed the expeditionary forces on the continent since the war began.

Sir John French, at his own request, has been relieved of the command of the British forces. He becomes commander-in-chief of the army in the United Kingdom, and for his sixteen months' services at the front has been created viscount of United Kingdom.

EUROPE SCORES AT HENRY FORD AND HIS PEACE ARK

The Hague, via London, Dec. 12.—Neither encouragement, recognition, nor support in any shape or form will be offered to the Ford peace party by the Netherlands government.

Government officials, it was indicated, naturally noted the party's departure and received a notification thereof from the leader, but no reply was forwarded. No opposition will, however, be placed in the way of the party's landing in Holland, but should the activities of its members become embarrassing while here they will, in all probability, be requested to transfer their headquarters to other than Dutch territory.

The impression prevails that the general public and the press are inclined to regard the Ford party without the slightest interest, as the opinion is widely prevalent here that peace will not be achieved by the efforts of pacifists, but as a result of hard fought battles, in which one's antagonist succumbs.

Stockholm, via London, Dec. 12.—Henry Ford's peace mission is regarded by the Swedish press as a novelty which will have no chance to intervene in the cause of peace. No acknowledgment of the mission, it is stated, will be made by the Swedish authorities and the American legation has taken no notice of it.

Edinburgh, Dec. 12.—"At this moment there is coming over a vessel fraught with peace," said the Earl of Rosebery, the former prime minister, in a speech here tonight.

"It is propelled apparently by a gentleman named Ford, who makes, I think, perambulators. He is coming over to pour oil on troubled waters at the inspiration of a Dr. Aked, of whom we know something here, and who by voice more potent than that of any mortal heard in this world, is going to call the soldiers from the trenches and bid the waves be still."

"The expedition will fail, but that the mighty passengers receiving free passages may enjoy themselves and do no mischief is our earnest wish."

BRITISH WELL SUPPLIED WITH SHELLS

London, Dec. 10.—Soldiers now returned from the Flanders front emphasize the overwhelming nature of the artillery during the past few weeks. They say we are now so abundantly supplied with high explosive shells that we are able to reply often with two or three shells to the German one.

The enemy has been concentrating a tremendous artillery fire from the heaviest weapons, including 42 centimetre guns, the Viper salient, attempting to destroy all the remaining houses,

churches, and other buildings. Behind these, Lamerlingh cemetery, where the Grenfells are buried, lying untouched, is now being shelled and wrecked.

German soldiers along our front are attempting at different points to repeat the informal Christmas truce as of last year. They called from one set of advanced trenches a few days ago, "Kumrades, Kumerades! Christmas coming. No more shoot until after Christmas." Last year's Christmas truce of the trenches will not be repeated. Now our men are making no responses to such advances. Poison gas, ill-treatment, of prisoners, and stories of killing wounded on the field of battle have steelled the hearts of our men.

Occasionally parties of German soldiers, exhausted by the appalling weather conditions, voluntarily surrender, coming into our lines without weapons.

Everyone speaks highly of the new boots and winter clothing, and men who experienced last winter say the improvement is immeasurable.

GOVERNMENT BUYING HAY FOR WAR OFFICE

In view of the heavy hay crop in Alberta this year the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa has had under consideration for some time the matter of purchasing a quantity of timothy hay for British army supply.

Since last August they have been in communication with the Provincial Department of Agriculture, securing information as to the quantity available, the quality, etc. Samples were sent to Ottawa by the Provincial Department, the quality of which proved satisfactory.

At first the high cost of transporting such a bulky commodity from Alberta to France seemed prohibitive, but finally through concessions secured from the Canadian Pacific Railway arrangements have been completed whereby a considerable amount of Alberta timothy will be purchased by the Dominion Department of Agriculture for the account of the Imperial war office.

W. W. Moore, of that department, has been in the province for the past two weeks looking after the transaction and making final arrangements for the purchase and delivery of this hay.

The Dominion department will inspect and take delivery at Calgary, and the contract provides that any ten tons in any one car are found to be below grade the whole car may be rejected. If any farmer is dissatisfied with the grade which he receives from the contractor at local points he may secure a certificate of the grade of any car from the Government inspector at Calgary by sending the car number to the Government Hay Compressing Plant, 11th avenue and 5th street East, Calgary, and requesting a copy of the inspector's certificate.

South of Calgary, where the hay is purchased direct from the Alberta Hay Growers' Association of Pincher Creek, the price to the grower will be \$10 per ton for No. 1 grade, and \$8.50 per ton for No. 2 grade. North of Calgary, where a contract has been made with Herdman and Kirkcaldie, of Olds, the price and delivery on C.P.R. lines between Calgary and Edmonton, the grower to receive \$9.50 per ton for No. 1 grade and \$8.25 per ton for No. 2 grade f.o.b. cars at loading stations.

The following are the definitions of the grades:

Grade No. 1 shall mean timothy with not more than one-eighth of other tame grasses mixed of good color, sound, and well cured, free from stubble, spear grass, and wild barley, commonly known as "Fox Tail."

Grade No. 2 shall mean timothy with not more than one-fourth of other tame grasses, of fair color, well cured, free from stubble, and spear grass, and wild barley, commonly known as "Fox Tail."

E. B. McLeod is buying agent at Lacombe, and if you have any hay for sale call him up.

Unity Between Allied Powers

Paris, Dec. 12.—Earl Kitchener, the British Secretary of War, the Temps says, was unfavorably impressed, in the course of his Mediterranean visit by the serious delay and difficulties which interfered with the expedition of Saloniki. The attempts to rescue the Serbians, which failed, seemed to him, might have been tried elsewhere with more chance of success.

These ideas were discussed at the Calais conference, and then examined by the war council of the allies, held under the presidency of General Joffre, says the Temps, which adds:

Three days ago Earl Kitchener and Sir Edward Grey returned to Paris, and the result of the agreement regarding the Balkan campaign was the despatch of identical instructions by the foreign ministers of France and Great Britain to the diplomatic representatives of those countries at Athens. General Sarraill (the French commander) and General Sir Charles C. Munro (the British commander) received instructions countersigned by the war ministers of France and Great Britain and the French commander-in-chief.

"Complete unity is now established between the two governments, and immediately reflected in their military action on the Vardar. The happy effect of this co-ordination is now making itself felt."

DISGRACED HUN OFFICIALS WERE KAISER'S CHOICE

Washington, Dec. 8.—Emperor William has a personal interest in the withdrawal of Captains Karl Boy-Ed and Von Papen, attaches of the German embassy here.

State department officials have been informed that as the attaches were personally appointed by Emperor William, he personally probably will give the order for their withdrawal. Officials considered it probable that the German foreign office was prompted to ask what caused the action of the United States in declaring the attaches persona non grata so that when a report of the incident is made to the emperor it may be complete in all details. The belief prevailed in official circles that Ambassador Bernstorff would not be able to inform Secretary Lansing that the wishes of the United States would be complied with before Saturday at the earliest. Any applications for safe conducts for Captains Boy-Ed and Von Papen will be considered by the Allied governments solely as a request of the United States. It is the United States that should take the ground that it is responsible for the safe return of the two officers to Germany. The Allied governments probably would be asked, it is expected, to refrain from intervention, though it is probable that they would insist that the men give their parole not to serve actively during the war.

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DIRTY GAME WAS FOILED BY WOMAN

Providence, R.I., Dec. 10.—The Providence Journal, which has exposed several cases of German improper activities in the United States, says today:

"Two startling developments in the case of C. C. Crowley, arrested last week for illegal complicity in explosions on the Pacific coast, were laid before the department of justice in Washington by the Journal yesterday. One of these concerns a German consul-general at San Francisco, F. Bopp, who, the Journal asserts, has received within the

Last two months nearly \$400,000 for work in connection with the destruction of wharves, ships and munition plants at San Francisco, Tacoma, and Seattle.

"The other phase of the case appears in a letter presented by the Journal to the department of justice, signed by Crowley, and sent by him to Mme. Bakmeteff, wife of the Russian ambassador in Washington. This communication, which was received by Mme. Bakmeteff on September 20, was the attempt to obtain credentials from the Russian embassy and from the Red Cross for the shipment of cases of dried fruits on steamer trading between Tacoma and Vladivostok, which cases, it is said, were really meant to contain explosive bombs wired to quantities of dynamite."

"Crowley, representing himself as agent for several fruit growers in California, declared to Mme. Bakmeteff that they had decided to present, free of charge, paying all shipping fares, several tons of dried fruit to the Russian Red Cross, and asked for some recognition from her in connection with the shipments, in order to facilitate their being received without question by the agents of the Blue Funnel line, the ships of which company are carrying large quantities of munitions of war from this country to Vladivostok."

"The wife of the Russian ambassador, who is a prominent member of the Russian Red Cross, detecting the possibility of mischief in responding in any way to a request of this kind, did not acknowledge the letter."

INVENTS APPARATUS FOR FOG SIGNAL DETECTION

New York, Dec. 9.—Prof. A. G. Webster, of Clark University, Worcester, Mass., in an address today at the final session of the Winter Academy of Science, told of an instrument he had perfected for finding the direction of fog signals, and which he expects will rob sea travel of one of its greatest terrors. For years Prof. Webster has experimented with every kind of sound waves, and today told of his work in regard to the standardizing sounds for fog horns and the development of a receiving instrument capable of catching the signals.

The standard sound which he hopes will be adopted for navigation so far as fog signals are concerned, is formed by means of a tuning fork arranged, as it were, in a resonator by the passage of an electric current. The receiving instrument consists of conical horns placed in pairs, with the small end to the rear, and these catch the hum from the signalling machine. A glass connected with the receiving apparatus shows by means of light the direction from which comes the signal sound. Heretofore the speaker explained mariners have not been able to tell within 45 degrees the direction from which fog signals come.

The disaster in which the Irish press of Ireland was sunk on the coast of Canada about two years ago, the speaker pointed out, was due to the pilots on board her and the ship with which she collided steering wrong in a fog.

If they had been directed by such an instrument as his receiver, Prof. Webster said, the pilots would have known exactly how to steer and the collision with the attendant loss of 1,200 lives could have readily been avoided.

WAR BADGE FOR USE IN CANADA

Ottawa, Dec. 9.—The minister of militia still has under consideration the issue of a badge or button to serve the purpose of the khaki armband.

Many requests have been made lately by various organizations engaged in the promotion of recruiting, for the issue of a badge, button, or armband, that can be

worn by men who have proven their willingness to serve at the front, or men who are engaged in the production of war munitions.

It has been urged that the use of a distinguishing badge, authorized by the government, would stimulate enlistment, and at the same time would give credit to those whose absence from the ranks is not due to unwillingness to serve.

A number of designs have, it is understood, been submitted to the department, the one most likely of adoption being a small button bearing the royal crown. A decision as to the form and issue of the button will be made within the next few days.

So far as can be learned, the use of the buttons will be restricted to men who have offered themselves for service, and been rejected on the grounds of physical disability; to men who are over the age of enlistment, and to expert munition workers engaged on the production of munitions of various kinds for the allies.

WHAT THE NEWSPAPER IS TO YOU

(St. Louis Post-Dispatch)

"Life in a great city is like life in an enchanted forest," says a brilliant essayist, John Cowper Powys. "One never knows what hideous ogre or what exquisite hamadryad one may encounter. And the little ways of life, the scrabbling and burrowing and chuckling and nodding and winking housemates! To go through the world expecting adventures is to find them sooner or later. But one must have one's threshold to find adventure."

The newspaper fetches adventure to your door—or leads you over your threshold out into the forest of enchantment. The newspaper on your doorstep brings company, strange people, romance, wonderful living realities, absorbing interest, throbbing life; admits you into the great, intimate, vital experience of the whole world of fellow beings; makes you one in sharing their triumphs, tragedies, sorrows, joys, sympathies, excitements.

You regard the newspaper as a commonplace matter-of-course. Did you stop to reflect that it is the vein which imparts to you the life-blood of humanity at large? That it is your principal medium of intelligence and source of information? That it alone feeds you with the strength for keeping on with your world and maintaining a footing with men? That it supplies the most significant data for your business, or needed information for your household? That it furnishes the topics of much of your conversation and most of your gossip? That it caters to your pleasures, bulletins your amusements, invites you out to yourself, plays to your fancy, tickles your humor, provides most of your jokes, affords an unending companionship that fills lonely hours and finally keeps you yourself alive? That without it the world would be a blank to you, and you'd be fit only for the society of the Dark Ages?

RED CROSS NOTES

On Wednesday last Mrs. Dwyer, Mrs. Hay, and Mrs. Lett, went down to Blackhills to assist the ladies there to organize a branch of the Red Cross Society. The meeting was held at the residence of Mrs. Hill, and there was a good turnout of the representative women of Blackhills and the surrounding country. It was decided to form an auxiliary of the Lacombe Red Cross Society, with Mrs. Bradbury as Secretary-Treasurer. All those present seemed very interested in the work, and with the help of this new branch in Blackhills the Lacombe district should be able to accomplish a great deal for the Red Cross Society.

Germany Ready for Peace

Berlin, Dec. 16.—So long as uncontrolled hatred of Germany and belief that Germany is approaching a collapse continue to be dominant in the enemy countries, it would be folly for Germany to take the initiative in proposing terms of peace. Germany, however, is ready at any time to consider a peace suggestion from the countries with which she is at war; does not wish a continuation of the war, and disassociates herself under these circumstances, from any responsibility for its prolongation.

This is the substance of the German imperial chancellor's reply to the Socialist interpellation on peace, in which he painted a picture of Germany triumphant on all sides and supplied with everything, even not in abundance, necessary to the continuation of the war.

The interpellation was introduced by Dr. Scheidemann in the following terms:

"Is the imperial chancellor ready to give information as to the conditions under which he would be willing to enter into peace negotiations?"

"If our enemies make peace proposals compatible with Germany's dignity and safety," said Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, "then we shall always be ready to discuss them. So long as in the countries of our enemies the guilt and ignorance of statesmen are tangled with confusion of public opinion, it would be folly for Germany to make peace proposals, which would not be shortened, but would lengthen the war. First, the marks must be torn from their faces."

Only two Socialists spoke on the interpellation, all the non-Socialist parties uniting in a short denunciation opposing discussion at this moment.

The imperial chancellor explained the situation on all the fronts, and declared that Germany could not be starved out. The country had enough food if properly distributed.

Rumors that Germany is on the verge of collapse," said the chancellor, "and the attribution of a peace mission to every prominent German who goes abroad—reports in which there is not a word of truth—are all part of a deliberate campaign to keep up the spirits of the enemy peoples. There is not a weak point in the German reckoning. If our enemies do not choose to accept the situation and end the war now, they must do so later. Germany can wait."

INCITE IRISH TO FIGHT BRITAIN

New York, Dec. 13.—A circular letter calling upon Irishmen of the United States to subscribe to a fund to be used in the purchase of arms and equipment for the "imminent defeat of British arms," will have the "greatest opportunity yet offered" to overcome what is called "British imperialism," has been sent recently to persons of Irish descent in various parts of the country.

The names signed to the letter are those of Joseph McGuire, president; Patrick J. Griffin, secretary; and Denis A. Spill, treasurer.

The letterhead calls the organization the "National Army of Ireland," and all subscriptions to arm and equip the army, the secretary said. The headquarters of the army in New York is 256 Broadway. The letterheads show a soldier in a green uniform firing a rifle. The letter is signed by Mr. Spellis.

In an interview, predicted that there would be an uprising in Ireland when conscription was resorted to, and that a German army was later to support the insurrection. He did not say how the Germans would get past the British fleet.

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F. H. SCHOOLLEY, PROPRIETOR

MAKING MONEY OUT OF WAR

The announcement in the Wall Street Journal of the enormous profits made by the Canadian manufacturers of shells is one of the most startling that has been made since war broke out. The statement in itself, which appears in this issue, makes comment unnecessary. It is simply appalling.

The Canada Foundry Company has received very large orders for shells, most of which were sublet to United States firms, and made a clear profit of \$20,000,000.

In this regard, the Ottawa Citizen points out that the Canada Car Foundry at Fort William, to which the Fort William people in adverse times paid a bonus of \$250,000, where this work could have been done and should have been done, is practically idle, and also that all orders sublet to the United States were except any suggested Dominion war taxation.

The Dominion Iron and Steel Company, of Sydney, is doing business at the rate of eight million dollars a year, and is making a profit of 13 per cent.

The Steel Company of Hamilton is showing earnings of \$500,000 a year, and has orders which will keep it going at full time for two years.

The other companies are making the same enormous profits, some of which are manufacturing in Canada and some making millions by subletting their contracts to United States firms, and the work is being done by United States workmen.

NOTABLE STATEMENTS

Venezelos, ex-premier of Greece, and Thomas, French minister of munitions, have made speeches which will be recorded in the history of the great war when it is written. The announcement of the former comes in the form of a statement to his party in Greece concerning the forthcoming elections. It is an extremely bold statement for a man to make who lives in a country he governs—or misgoverns—as Greece is just now, and the fact that the ex-premier makes it is proof that he feels confident he has a majority of the people, at his back.

"Day by day," says Venezelos, "the constitution is deformed into a simple scrap of paper, and we find ourselves at present in a deviation from the policies mounting to suppression of the constitutional regime." The ancient regime that was thought to have been abolished by the revolution of 1909 came again to life with the monarchy in the month of February. Beaten in the elections this regime concentrates all its forces today in a supreme effort to suppress the liberties of the people because it cannot live otherwise. And then he advises the Liberal party, of which he is the head, to take no part in the forthcoming election.

It is not at all probable that King Constantine will take any action against Venezelos. He has already done so much to excite the people against him, that any action against the ex-premier might be fatal. The king is having his way just now, but there is sure to come a reckoning day, and when it comes Venezelos will be vindicated. And mean while the Allies may take comfort from what is written between the lines in the Venezelos statement. It is impossible to imagine that the Greek people would lend themselves to a act of treachery to the Allies, when it is known that a majority of them are of the same mind as Venezelos.

The statement of the French minister of munitions was equally forcible and satisfactory. He was talking of peace and peace rumors not long after a meeting of the Allies army council, at which the campaign and its issues were fully discussed. With the authority of cabinet minister he outlined the following peace terms as acceptable to the French nation.

The restoration of Alsace and Lorraine to France.

Belgium and Serbia restored to complete security and independence.

German imperialism and Prussian militarism put beyond the possibility of resurrection.

NO CONSCRIPTION IN CANADA

The establishment of a system of right, founded upon the victorious union of the Allies, and supported by the free adherence of neutrals, which will abolish forever the violence of war.

That may seem to be a pretty stiff programme, but the Allies have the men and munitions to carry it through and at this moment when so much of peace talk is emanating from German sources it is refreshing to hear that the quadruple entente, having set its hand to the plow is not disposed to either stop or turn back.

BERNSTEIN'S PEACE PROGRAMME

It has been reported that when the Reichstag meets next week, the German Socialists will endeavor to have a peace program formulated. The majority of the executive of the party in the terms of their programme, which was widely published, protested against any annexation policy, but the minority programme, presented by Dr. Eduard Bernstein, the leader of the moderate section, was a far more notable and bolder document.

It opened by stating that peace could only renew friendly relations between the peoples at war if it conform to the supreme principle of the right of peoples to decide their own fate. In the case of countries of European civilization, which have lived under foreign rule, no territorial changes should take place without the wishes of the people being consulted, and that such consultation should be supervised by neutral nations so as to ensure perfect freedom in voting. All adults, who lived in the country for at least one year before the outbreak of war should have the right to vote, and self-government should be given to all subject peoples, whether traders or not, one power or another, or not, with the right to decide by vote as to which state they should belong.

This is obviously directed to the problem of the provinces of Alsace-Lorraine, which the majority of the German Socialists executive insist must remain German territory.

Outside Europe international modification should only take place under conditions as guarantee the status of the inhabitants against injury.

The question of Belgium is considered in detail, and Dr. Bernstein reaches a conclusion vastly different to that of the German professors. "All forcible annexation of Belgium territory or any interference with Belgian autonomy by any state whatever must be energetically resisted; but further, it must be added that Germany, without any provocation whatsoever, that she would in herself admitted, violated the neutrality of Belgium in defiance of the law of nations, and having thus made her way into Belgium to satisfy her own designs, lead down the resistance and occupied the country by force. Germany is therefore bound to evacuate Belgium immediately on the conclusion of peace, in accordance with the solemn declaration made August 4, 1914, by the German ambassadors, Prince Lichnowsky, to the English secretary of state, Sir Edward Grey, and to pay full and ample indemnity to the people of Belgium for material and moral injury which they have suffered."

When the time comes for the initiative to be taken in the task of mediation, such a declaration should do much toward pointing a way out of the difficulties that are bound to be encountered.

WOULDN'T BE DRAWS

London, Dec. 8.—"As there is nothing done in Christianity at present, isn't it important that the program presented in the house of commons today to Harold J. Tennant, parliamentary under secretary for war, by Robert L. Douthwaite, Liberal member.

"The question was put evidently with the object of starting a debate on the subject of the enlistment of the clergy, upon which there has been considerable discussion. Mr. Tennant, however, refused to be drawn.

NO CONSCRIPTION IN CANADA

In his address at Vancouver, on Tuesday, the Hon. Robert Rogers emphatically declared that not only was there no thought of conscription in Canada, but that it would never be necessary, not even in a war like the present, in which Canada's participation in it must be outside our own borders.

In the first place, recruiting in Canada has been of a nature and extent as to do away with any necessity for conscription; and, in the second place, there are constitutional and national considerations involved which would act as a decided deterrent against Great Britain consenting to conscription in the colonies. Every one in a while some over-zealous patriot in this country gets pessimistic and comes out in favor of conscription in Canada, possibly without having given sufficient thought to the very things that will not only render conscription not necessary, but will make it impossible in Canada. Irrespective of what measures may be found expedient in the British Isles, Britain will win this war; and when it is all over it will be one of the proudest boasts of the Empire that of the hundreds of thousands of men from the colonies who helped win it, not a single man was prompted to join the armies of those colonies through compulsion.

HERE'S A POSER

One of the most outstanding tributes to the sagacity of President Wilson has come in the praise given by Edmund D. Hulbert, a Chicago banker, to the federal reserve bank scheme, introduced by the president, not so many months ago as an aid to counteract the periodic tendency in United States financial circles to contract credits.

At a gathering of the Western Economic society, Mr. Hulbert stated that from his observation of the operation of the reserve bank act, had the system been in operation in the States in August, 1914, there would have been no suspension of payments. At the same time he drew attention to the fact that the reserve banks had a duty equally important in contracting credits during periods of over-expansion, such as that which is just now observable throughout the U.S. Unfortunately, however, the machinery of the act was less adaptable to this work than the expansion work which has been so well done.

This is an interesting observation and one which will be sure to attract the attention of such a man as President Wilson. That there is much of truth in it will be generally admitted, for if it were possible in some way to safeguard the country in times of over-expansion it is certain that the world would be much less trouble encountered in the direction of credit contraction.

The trouble is that when things are going with a swing the bankers themselves are caught up in the whirl of optimism and are apt to contribute to the general disaster which is sure to come following over-expansion periods by making it too easy for people to get credits—such much too easy as they make it too hard in times of contraction. And the question is, how will it be possible to frame a law which will operate as efficiently in the former direction as it has already operated in the latter?

THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

A conference of 500 teachers of English was recently held in Tokyo. Ninety-five per cent of those present were Japanese. The five per cent were American and British.

During the ten days the conference continued the proceedings were conducted entirely in English, and, it is reported, proficiency in the language was universal among the participants.

A report from the conference says that 100,000 boys and girls in the secondary schools of Japan studying English, the boys seven hours a week and the girls at least half that time. In Japanese schools of all grades up to the university, nearly 200,000 boys and girls are studying it.

English is the language of commerce, and is spoken by two world powers. Its spread in all

maritime countries has been remarkable. Japan's insular position and the growing devotion of the people to commerce probably account for the popularity of English there.

It has been said that English will be spoken almost universally in Japan within a few generations. This will be comforting (?) to the barbarous war lords who had it all figured out that German was to take the place of English.

BRITISH COLUMBIA'S TIMBER

British Columbia is in the timber growing business on an immense scale. Careful investigation by the Provincial Forest Service shows that the Province has over 100,000,000 acres of land not suited for agriculture, but splendidly adapted for growing the best of timber. The government has, therefore, planned to raise timber perpetually on this land. After all a tree is nothing more or less than a vegetable which requires many years instead of one to ripen, and a forest is only a kind of crop that takes a century to grow. With so much of its area occupied by forests, and with lumbering already its greatest industry, it is not strange that British Columbia should be the first province to adopt systematic timber farming. A government department charged with carrying out this work was established in 1912. The forests were protected against destruction by fire, while revenue collection, the selling and scaling of timber, the prevention of trespass and inspection of logging operations to reduce waste, were thoroughly organized.

An inventory of the forests of the entire province was also commenced in order to find out how much timber could be cut each year without injuring the forests. The investigation showed that the Province contained 100,000,000 acres of forest land, and about 400 billion feet of merchantable timber. The forests, moreover, are producing annually about five billion feet of new timber. Since at present only a billion and a half feet are cut each year it is evident that the harvest can safely be increased several times over; that, in fact, an immense amount of timber is actually going to waste. It is exactly as if the farmers on the prairie could find a market for only a third of their wheat crop.

A knowledge of these facts showed the British Columbia government that it must obtain markets for its complete wood crop. After studying the timber markets of the world, the government is now taking steps to increase its trade in lumber with the United Kingdom, Australia, and New Zealand, South Africa, and other countries which have not enough timber of their own. The prairie provinces, however, are the largest market for British Columbia forest products.

The British Columbia government is now working to develop this market to the full. To give the best possible service to prairie farmers, who are among the largest consumers of B.C. lumber, the government has prepared, in co-operation with the University of Saskatchewan, a series of bulletins on farm buildings, which are designed to make it as easy as possible for the farmer to plan and erect his buildings. Similar methods are being adopted in Eastern Canada, where there is a good market for heavy timbers and high grade lumber products from B.C. By establishing a commercial service in every market and by systematic publicity work, British Columbia will secure markets for its full wood crop, and thus put its vast forest operations on a stable basis as the grain growing industries on which the prairie provinces depend.

MCBRIDE RESIGNS

Victoria, B.C., Dec. 15.—After twelve years as premier of this province Sir Richard McBride today resigned that office and his seat in the legislature. Hon. W. J. Bowser succeeds as premier and retains his portfolio of attorney general. Sir Richard was today appointed to the University of London, the resignation of Hon. J. B. Turner from that post being announced today. Sir Richard will leave in a few days for his new post.



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Return limit April 30th, 1916

Full information, steamship and sleeping car reservations from any Canadian Pacific Ticket Agent

R. DAWSON, District Passenger Agent, Calgary

TWO RETIREMENTS BY BRITISH FORCE IN THE BALKANS

London, Dec. 9.—Two successive retirements by the British forces in the Balkans was officially announced tonight. On December 7th the troops were withdrawn to a new line, and on December 8th they retired to another line. The official statement was as follows:

"On December 6th the Bulgarians, after a heavy bombardment, attacked our troops west of Lake Doiran. Our advanced trenches were entered by small parties of Bulgarians who were immediately driven out with the bayonet.

"On the morning of December 7th the Bulgarians attacked again, and by weight of superior numbers, drove our troops out of their position. Under cover of darkness the troops were withdrawn to a new line. Reports as to our losses have not been received.

"On December 8th the British troops successfully repulsed all attacks, and in the evening they were withdrawn to a new position in order to conform with the general alignment."

A despatch to Reuters' Telegraph Company, from British headquarters in Macedonia, sent under date of December 8th, says:

"The Bulgarian attacks during the past two or three days have been more serious than were originally reported. The Bulgarians show constantly increasing strength, and seem to be well supplied with artillery, which keeps up a constant fire.

"Like the Germans, the Bulgarians deluge their objective with shrapnel before attacking with infantry.

"Since Monday the British lines have engaged the principal share of their attention, and before the superior strength of the enemy our outposts are gradually falling back to the main position. Some hand to hand fighting has occurred.

"The few Bulgarian prisoners taken declare they have no wish to fight against the entente allies, but are anxious to meet the Greeks, and wipe out old scores.

"As the lines of the entente allies contract upon the Greek frontier, the problem of the Greek government becomes more and more acute.

"The French withdrawal to Demir-Kapu was most orderly. They brought away, even their stores of hay and forage."

London, Dec. 9.—Having arrived too late to prevent the invasion of Serbia, the British and French forces in the southeastern part of Serbia are now retiring before the onslaughts of the Bulgarians who, supported by German artillery and infantry, have been attacking both the British and the French, and compelling them to give up advanced positions.

According to reports from Saloniki the retirement is being carried out in an orderly manner, but how far it is to continue is a matter of much speculation. Opinion is divided as to whether it would not be better to abandon the entire expedition or merely retain Saloniki as a base. The latter alternative, however, would, it is believed, further endanger the relations of the entente allies with Greece, which now are far from satisfactory, and would be an inducement to the central powers to follow the entente forces across the Greek frontier.

Besides battles in the Balkans the British people are watching with deep interest the operations in Mesopotamia, where a fight is now taking place for Kut El Amara; and in Arabia, the Turks in the latter region having commenced another advance on Aden. They made a similar attempt on Aden last July, but were driven back. As Aden and its vicinity, as well as the shores of the Straits of Bab-el-Mandeb, leading from the Red Sea to the Gulf of Aden, are well fortified, it is not believed an advance is seriously intended. There is also considerable activity on the Gallipoli peninsula, but there have not been any important changes in the situation of the troops.

London, Dec. 10.—Bulgarians, officered by Germans, are fiercely attacking the allies in Macedonia, according to the Times Saloniki correspondent, who regards the situation as grave. The correspondent says that a

series of fierce assaults, by day and night, have been directed against the allies right wing from Demir-Kapu to Kosturino. These assaults, the despatch adds, have so far been successfully beaten off, but the enemy is being continually reinforced and apparently intends to renew the attacks with the object of gaining Strumitza station, towards which the German cavalry has been making reconnaissances.

ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES IN FAVOR OF THE ALLIES CHARGED BY HUNS

San Francisco, Dec. 9.—A scathing denunciation of alleged illegal activities in war despatches, involving U. S. officials, Canadian officials, British sympathizers and Japanese sympathizers in this country, were made yesterday by Hermann R. Lentle, attorney for Franz Bopp, German consul-general at this port, in the shape of an official answer to the wholesale charges of bomb plotting against Germany in the United States.

What is claimed are specific instances of unlawful acts, extending over a long period, are enumerated, ad seriatim, in the first official utterances of this representative of the kaiser's government in this city.

The array of alleged evidence, which came as a complete surprise to the federal secret agents working on the so-called nationalities, involving U. S. officials, Canadian officials, British sympathizers and Japanese sympathizers in this country, were made yesterday by Hermann R. Lentle, attorney for Franz Bopp, German consul-general at this port, in the shape of an official answer to the wholesale charges of bomb plotting against Germany in the United States.

The man is understood to have engaged in alleged bombing in another territory than that of Louis J. Smith, the government witness.

DISCOURAGING MARRIAGE

When Professor Joseph F. Johnson, of the New York University, advocated a special tax levied upon men, to discourage growth of population, he took the only consistent position that an upholder of existing conditions can take.

If it is unavoidable that the great masses of people must always be poor, then Professor Johnson was right in holding unrestricted propagation to be a crime. If it is true that nature is so negatively that there is danger of pressure of population against the means of subsistence, then increase of population must mean intensification of pressure, and make vice, crime, and widespread misery, inevitable.

To show Professor Johnson in the wrong, it is necessary to show that there is room for new population, and no lack of opportunities. That is not difficult. The natural resources of Canada are alone more than sufficient, if properly used, to support the entire world's population. The trouble is that these resources have passed into private ownership, and these owners are encouraged by law to withhold the greater part of them from use. If Professor Johnson realizes that this state of affairs exists, he must be one of those who consider it quite natural and just. So instead of urging measures to open these unused resources to labor, he urges restriction of population. He is at least consistent.

But the same cannot be said of those who uphold existing conditions, and yet criticize Professor Johnson. There are quite many of these. A recent number of the Cincinnati Post contained statements by some local critics of this kind. They will serve as examples of similar ones to be found everywhere. Said Rev. Meigs Crouse, of the Children's Home:

"Prof. Johnson evidently does not know children are a nation's greatest asset. He does not remember the poorer classes whose families he would restrict—have produced such men as Edison and Lincoln."

Others quoted in the same issue, along similar lines, are

Travers J. Edmonds, of the Associated Charities, and William J. Norris, Social Service director.

If children are a nation's greatest asset, what must be said of those who uphold conditions, that breed tenements and slums, where infant mortality is necessarily the greatest? What must be said of those who uphold the tariff system, which holds the tariff as a tax on marriage as Professor Johnson advocates? What must be said of those who would continue the system of taxing improvements, personal property, and honestly-earned incomes, which restrict opportunities of parents for supporting children, and bear more heavily on those with large families than on those with small ones? In holding up Edison and Lincoln as examples of what the nation gains by unrestricted propagation, do they not also serve as examples of what the nation loses by continuing social conditions that discourage breeding of families, and cause a heavy death rate among the children of the poor?

Professor Johnson's reasoning can only be refuted by those who remove the cause of poverty. Those who oppose doing so had best remain silent if they lack the courage to concur.

L. I. D. No. 401

A meeting of the Council of L. I. D. 401 was held in McKinnon Bros. Hall on Saturday, Nov. 27th, 1915.

Councillors all present. Minutes of last meeting accepted as read.

Moved by Wright, seconded by Sauri, that delayed pay sheets be signed by chairman and secretary when received. Carried.

Moved by Wright, seconded by Sande, that Randall offer J. Sande \$100.00 for land required for his diversion in road, and complete the agreements. Carried.

Moved by Wright, seconded by Sauri, that Ellensburg be given authority to offer Mr. Fleming and Mr. Kenworthy \$150.00 for acre-for land required from them for diversion in road, and complete the agreements. Carried.

Moved by Wright, seconded by Sauri, that councillors be allowed pay for twelve days and mileage necessarily travelled in laying out and inspecting work. Carried.

The Secretary was instructed to write to the men who claim they done work in Division No. 2 in 1914, and get no credit for the work, telling them the present council can take no action in the matter.

Moved by Wright, seconded by Randall, that B. F. Austin be given authority to make agreements with the owners for land for a road through the centre of sections 35 and 36 in 41-5-5. Carried.

The following bills were passed and ordered paid:

R. D. Wright, councillor's fees, Division No. 1, \$100.00.
W. E. Ellensburg, councillor's fees, Division No. 2, \$110.00.

S. Sande, councillor's fees, Division No. 3, \$75.20.

E. Randall, councillor's fees, Division No. 4, \$73.00.

B. F. Austin, councillor's fees, Division No. 5, \$100.00.

J. Sauri, councillor's fees, Division No. 6, \$80.00.

Valley Lumber Co., plank, Division No. 1, \$53.80.

H. K. McLeod, repairing plow, Division No. 1, \$2.25.

F. Hancher, repairing plow, Division No. 5, \$1.00.

R. McGee, rent for plow, Division No. 6, \$2.00.

McKinnon Bros., spikes, Division No. 1, \$2.90.

McKinnon Bros., spikes, Division No. 5, \$1.00.

A. Kangas, land for diversion in road, Division No. 4, \$10.00.

Moved by Wright, seconded by Sauri, that Mr. A. N. McKinnon be paid \$100.00 for acting secretary from Jan. 1st till April 17th, 1915. Carried.

A letter was read from the Minister of Municipal Affairs, saying men that have enlisted are not exempt from taxes.

The following pay sheets were passed and ordered paid:

No. 45, Div. No. 2, \$110.25.
No. 46, Div. No. 2, \$89.60.

No. 47, Div. No. 5, \$33.00.
No. 48, Div. No. 6, \$40.00.

No. 49, Div. No. 2, \$70.00.
No. 50, Div. No. 2, \$125.30.

No. 51, Div. No. 3, \$36.50.
No. 52, Div. No. 6, \$92.00.

No. 53, Div. No. 5, \$129.25.
No. 54, Div. No. 6, \$70.00.

No. 55, Div. No. 5, \$61.20.

No. 57, Div. No. 4, \$70.50.
No. 58, Div. No. 4, \$94.00.
No. 59, Div. No. 4, \$89.70.
No. 60, Div. No. 4, \$92.70.
No. 61, Div. No. 1, \$260.00.
No. 62, Div. No. 1, \$190.00.
No. 63, Div. No. 3, \$140.00.
No. 64, Div. No. 3, \$22.00.
No. 65, Div. No. 3, \$44.00.
No. 66, Div. No. 3, \$13.75.
No. 67, Div. No. 3, \$66.00.
No. 68, Div. No. 3, \$44.00.
No. 69, Div. No. 3, \$33.00.
No. 70, Div. No. 3, \$35.00.
No. 71, Div. No. 3, \$143.00.
No. 72, Div. No. 3, \$94.05.
No. 73, Div. No. 6, \$39.75.
No. 74, Div. No. 6, \$32.00.
No. 75, Div. No. 6, \$57.25.
No. 76, Div. No. 6, \$32.50.
No. 77, Div. No. 4, \$109.00.
No. 78, Div. No. 2, \$104.50.
No. 79, Div. No. 5, \$98.00.
No. 80, Div. No. 5, \$106.00.

The following returning officers were appointed:

Division No. 1—E. N. French.

Division No. 2—L. Slaght.

Division No. 3—A. Shenary.

Division No. 4—M. Ullrich.

Division No. 5—E. Whaley.

Division No. 6—J. Ferguson.

Moved by Austin, seconded by Sande, that meeting adjourn.

A. SIM, Sec'y-Treasurer

OF INTEREST TO SHEEP BREEDERS

The Alberta Provincial Sheep Breeders' Association have under consideration the matter of asking the Government to restore the bounty for the destruction of coyotes, and in order to do this intelligently are anxious to accumulate as much evidence on the matter as possible. With this object in view, they have written their members, asking for the following questions, and anyone who is interested, whether a member of the Association or not, will do himself and the Association a favor by writing to the Secretary, W. J. Stark, Box 216, Edmonton, giving the following information:

Give your losses from coyotes, during 1914 and 1915, as follows:

Sheep.....

Page.....

Poultry.....

What are the difficulties in fencing against coyotes?

What fence do you recommend?

What other expedients or devices do you make use of?

State how far these are effective?

Give present size of your flock?

What breed or grade are they?

Name of owner.....

Address.....

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New Goods Now in Stock



Men's and Boys' Shoes
Rubbers and Overshoes
Felt Shoes
Sheepskin Shoes
Moose Moccasins
Oil Tan Moccasins
Men's Leather Leggings
Winter Mitts and
Gloves for Men
and Boys

Prices Low

L. PETERKA

Opposite Tittworth's Furniture Store Lacombe

EVERY FARM IS A FACTORY

Like any other factory, a farm requires a properly equipped plant. That means well designed buildings. The British Columbia Forest Service is publishing a series of bulletins on farm buildings, the plans for which, the bills of material, and instructions how to build, were prepared by the College of Agriculture of the University of Saskatchewan. The Forest Service has supplied information concerning the best woods to use.

No expense or pains have been spared to make these bulletins of real value to the farmer. Even if you do not expect to build immediately, these bulletins will help you to work out your plans for extending or improving your plant and will enable you to find out the cost beforehand.

Any of the following bulletins in which you are interested will be mailed free on application to the Chief Forester, Victoria, B. C. Complete reference sets will also be supplied lumber dealers on request.

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. General Purpose Barns. | 6. Piggeries and Smoke Houses |
| 2. Dairy Barns. | 7. Poultry Houses |
| 3. Beef Cattle Barns. | 8. Implement Sheds and Granaries. |
| 4. Horse Barns. | 9. Silos and Root Cellars. |
| 5. Sheep Barns. | 10. Farm Houses. |

British Columbia has a Wood for every use, grown and manufactured in Canada. It is sound sentiment and sound business for Canadian farmers to buy Canadian timber.

Lacombe 2nd Hand Store

I buy and sell second-hand goods

I handle Bankrupt Stock—Clothing, Hardware, Furniture, Beds, Springs and Mattresses, the Famous Monarch line of Stoves and Ranges, Cooking Utensils, Trunks and Valises, Galvanized and Enamelware, Sewing Machines, Guns and Ammunitions, Phonographs and Records, Musical Instruments of all kinds, and Jewelry. Real Estate bought and sold. Get my prices before buying.

O. BOODE, Nanton St.

EDWIN H. JONES

Barriator, Solicitor
and Notary

P. O. Box 148. Phone No. 10.
Office: Denike Block, Barnett Ave.

Magnet Lodge No. 12

I. O. O. F.

ny occasionally. Ask her to marry you, or something like that?" "It's them church bells, mi- they hadn't ought to be allowed."

The Store
with the
Best Values

THE LEADING STORE

The Store
with the
Right Prices

NOW IS THE TIME TO DO YOUR XMAS BUYING

Handkerchiefs

We have a good assortment of Handkerchiefs to choose from. They are very dainty. Prices from.....5c to \$1.25

Ladies' Collars

Here is where you see the newest styles in Ladies' Collars. It will pay you to look them over. Prices range from 25c up to.....\$2.50

Ladies' Hand Bags

You will need a Hand Bag. We have them in the newest shapes and styles, a good variety of shades, at a moderate price, from.....75c to \$3.50



Great Bargains in Ladies' Coats

Now is the time to buy your Coat for the winter. 24 Ladies' Coats at half price. They are made of heavy cloth, up to date in style, good fitting. Note the price:

Regular \$12.50 on sale.....	\$6.75
" 15.00 ".....	7.50
" 18.00 ".....	9.00
" 20.00 ".....	10.00
" 25.00 ".....	12.50

Furs and Fur Coats

The balance of our Furs and Fur Coats are going to be cleared out at a great reduction. Do not miss seeing what the prices are.

Men's Department

Our Men's Department is more replete than ever with Xmas goods that are substantial and yet which make presentable presents, such as

Neckwear in all shapes.....	25c to \$1.00
Silk Handkerchiefs in plain and fancy borders.....	25c to 50c
Initial Handkerchiefs in pure linen and silk.....	25c to 50c
Arm Band Sets.....	35c
Arm Band and Hose Supporter Sets.....	50c to \$1.00

Men's House Slippers, Mufflers, Dress Gloves, Silk, Worsted and Cashmere Hose, Cuff Links, President and other makes of Suspenders in Xmas boxes, Belts, Fancy Mackinaws, Dress Shirts, Pyjamas, and dozens of nice and useful articles, for His Xmas Present.

GROCERY DEPARTMENT

In this department you will find a good variety of Xmas Goods and Fresh Fruits, such as Oranges, Grapes, Chocolates, Grape Fruit, Lemons, Xmas Candies, Table Raisins, Eating Figs, and a great many other eatables to suit your taste.

Agent for
the New Idea
Patterns 10c

A. M. Campbell Lacombe

All Kinds of
Hockey Skates
in the
Hardware Dept.

A Few Helpful Hints

Here are a few suggestions
which will help you to decide

FOR LADIES

Brooches. Bar Pins.
Bonnet Brushes. Cut Glass.
Bracelets. Solid Gold and
Gold Filled, 90c to \$20.00
Chatelaines. Cuff Links.
Dress Pins. Earrings.
Fobs. Silk and Gold Filled.
Gold Handed Umbrellas.
Gold Clocks. Lockets.
Manicure Sets. Mirrors.
Neck Chains. Pendants.
Rings. Silverware.
Watches. Watch Bracelets.

FOR MEN

Alarm Clocks. Desk Clocks.
Bracelet Watches on Strap.
Cuff Links. Collar Buttons.
Fobs. Silk and Gold Filled.
Gold Handed Umbrellas.
Hair Brushes.
Locketts.
Military Brushes.
Pierce's Silver Shaving
Mug and Brush.
Rings.
Scarf Pins. Tie Clips.
Watches. Watch Chains.

Let us show you what we have
in Suitable Christmas Gifts

"Five Feet Past the Entrance of the Royal Bank"

PAUL HOTSON

Jeweler and Optician. Issuer of Marriage Licenses.
Royal Bank Building. Barnett Ave. Lacombe

Items of Interest Locally

Len Paddison leaves this week for a three or four months' visit at his old home in Ontario.

A hockey game has been arranged for Christmas night in Lacombe rink, between the 66th Battalion, Edmonton, and Lacombe.

The Ladies Aid of the Presbyterian Church tender a vote of thanks to all those who took part, especially those from other churches, and helped to make the play, "The Minister's Bride."

a financial and enjoyable success.

Wm. Gillmor returned on Monday from a hunting expedition in the west country, and was so successful in his hunt for big game that he brought home with him a very large deer, weighing over 200 lbs.

The militia department has sanctioned the raising of platoons of the 151st battalion at various centres in the Province. Any district raising the necessary number of men will have them stationed and trained in that district. An effort will be made to secure the requisite number of men here.

As election aftermath, an investigation was held Friday to probe the charges that had been so freely made of misappropriation of money in the police department, and it was found that the charges were groundless, there being absolutely no evidence whatever to support them, and the charges have been withdrawn.

St. Andrew's Sabbath School will have its Christmas Tree and entertainment on Wednesday evening, Dec. 22nd, in the Church at 8 o'clock. A good programme is being prepared, consisting of choruses, drills, recitations, and action songs. We are looking forward to a pleasant time and hope to see a good turnout. Admission for adults, 25c.

On Monday evening last, at the Young People's Guild, Mrs. P. McDonald gave a very interesting paper on the great musician, Mozart. This was followed by a brief musical programme by Messrs. Lundie, Crawford, J. McDonald, and Miss Day. Next Monday night there will be a paper on "Christmas by Mr. Crawford," readings from Christmas carols, and some Christmas music.

The Lacombe Dairy team engaged in a very lively runaway on Friday. While the driver was delivering milk to the Crown restaurant one of the horses rubbed his bridle off and the team was started without it being noticed, and immediately broke into a run, making record speed for the length of Dolmage street. At the corner of the old school grounds the wagon overturned and there was a great smash of milk bottles and spilling of

milk. By rare good luck the driver escaped with only a few bruises and a scratch or two, though he was caught under the wagon when it overturned. The wagon was considerably wrecked.

THE TOWN ELECTION

By a large majority the ratepayers of Lacombe have shown that they appreciate a good council. The election activity Monday reminded of old times, and the vote polled was very large. 137 ballots being cast. The multiplicity of candidates resulted in the vote being very much split up. Still in the final summing up the old councillors stood close together.

The vote was as follows: Switzer 88, Raymond 83, McDonald 83, Garland 45, McFetridge 39, Curtis 29, Leslie 25.

The old school trustees were also returned by good majorities, the vote being: Campbell 91, Scott 86, Mrs. Misener 61.

PASSING OF THE RED MAN

The Red Man is making no progress in Canada. He is hardly holding his own. During the year ending last March, according to the annual report of the Dominion Government, he decreased in numbers, and made but little advance in any form of activity. He is just standing still, and probably losing ground a little bit, in this battle of existence.

There is more than ordinary pathos in the annual reports of the Indian department. Unfortunately, the men in charge, ap-

Christmas Presents For Young and Old

We have selected a very fine line of reasonable priced presents this year which will appeal to all

Hand-painted China from.....	50c to \$3.00
Solid Gold Brooches.....	\$2.00 up
Lavallies and Necklets, gold.....	\$3.50 to \$50.00
Bracelet Watches.....	\$3.25 to \$35.00
Neck Chains and Locketts.....	\$2.00 to \$3.50
Links in Gold, Silver, and Pearl.....	40c to \$10.00 pr
Fountain Pens.....	\$1.50 to \$6.00
Silver Plated Ware.....	50c up
Cut Glass.....	\$1.25 up
Ebony and Sterling Silver Sets.....	\$3.50 to \$35.00

All engraving free if ordered early

Denike & Bulger

Jewelers and Optometrists

LACOMBE

ALBERTA

pointed according to our methods of party appointments, have no sympathy for the red men, and look upon the Indian from the white man's viewpoint entirely. One agent reports that the whole trouble is that the Indians do not get enough work to do. Pile the work on them; that is the thing. Keep their noses to the grindstone, and do not let them have time to think of the adventurous days of the past, the glorious era of the nomad and the wanderer.

Another agent rejoices in the fact that the liberties of the Indian, by special enactment, have been curtailed, and they no longer can take part in some of the more adventurous pastimes of previous years. He cannot take part in the wild west shows or dress in the ancient costumes.

His going and coming have been curtailed.

And thus the Indian is passing. The agents have no other idea than to hurry him along. The Indian, according to the government official, is a fool, because he isn't a white man, and because he cannot act as white men act. The object of all their training seems to be to induce the Indians to copy the white man. Instead of being a happy red man, he should become a discontented, unhappy copy of the white man.

But that is the way the Indian is passing. His day is over, and his race is rapidly passing on to extinction.

BORN

FARR.—At Blackfalds, on Dec. 13, to Mr. and Mrs. E. Farr, a son.